

AD 8.12, Placement of Children Born to Incarcerated Women
Prepared for signature 10/5/98 - effective 10/1/98

1. Policy. The Department of Correction shall assist the Connecticut Department of Children and Families in the placement of children born to incarcerated females.
2. Authority and Reference.

Connecticut General Statutes, Sections 17a-3, 18-69a, and 18-81.
3. Liaison Function. The Unit Administrator of York Correctional Institution shall appoint a staff member to perform liaison duties between the York Correctional Institution, Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, and the Department of Children and Families.
4. Intake Procedure. The Unit Administrator of York Correctional Institution shall insure that the following procedures are followed when an inmate is admitted to the York Correctional Institution:
 - A. Each newly admitted inmate shall submit a urine specimen for pregnancy testing. Each pregnant inmate shall be referred to the next available obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) clinic.
 - B. As part of the admissions process, each inmate shall be required to report current contact with the Department of Children and Families.
5. Prenatal Coordination. The social work professionals from Lawrence and Memorial Hospital and the Department of Children and Families have primary responsibility for creating a placement plan for the newborn. As part of the OB/GYN clinic, an inmate shall meet with a physician and a social work professional from Lawrence and Memorial Hospital to facilitate prenatal classes and plan for placement of the newborn.
6. Birth and Hospitalization. An inmate shall be scheduled to give birth at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital. No visitors shall be allowed at the hospital during the inmate's stay. However, an inmate shall be allowed to visit a newborn at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital when the newborn's hospitalization is extended for medical surveillance or care. The Unit Administrator of York Correctional Institution shall create procedures by which these visits are accommodated.
7. Placement of the Newborn. The newborn shall be placed in accordance with the plan developed by social work professionals from Lawrence and Memorial Hospital and the Department of Children and Families.
8. Emergency. No provision of this Administrative Directive shall prevent a physician from taking necessary action to ensure the well being of the inmate or the newborn.
9. Exceptions. Any exceptions to the procedures in this Administrative Directive shall require prior written approval from the Commissioner.